

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 PARIS 32647 081721Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00
EB-08 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-05 TRSE-00
LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 AGRE-00 /063 W
-----003395 090252Z /13

R 081712Z NOV 77
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1387
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
USMISSION GENEVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PARIS 32647

DEPT PASS STR AND AGRICULTURE

USEEC ALSO FOR EMBASSY

USMTN ALSO FOR USMISSION

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAGR, EC, FR, ECON
SUBJECT: US-FRENCH AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS

1. ON NOVEMBER 7, MINECON MYERSON ACCOMPANIED BY AGATT SHARP MADE COURTESY CALL ON PIERRE MEHAIGNERIE, MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, AND JACQUES BLANC, SECRETARY OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE. ALSO PRESENT WAS CHRISTIAN CARDON, MINAG CHIEF OF CABINET.

2. MYERSON STRESSED MUTUAL IMPORTANCE OF AGRICULTURAL TRADE AND NEED TO MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE MARKET ACCESS DUE TO PROJECTED \$30 BILLION TRADE DEFICIT FOR U.S. AND IMPORTANCE OF AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS TO AMERICAN FARMERS. MEHAIGNERIE EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR OUR EXCELLENT RELATIONS IN AGRICULTURE AND ASKED OUR OPINION AS TO
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 PARIS 32647 081721Z

OUTSTANDING ISSUES. WE RESPONDED THAT MAJOR IMMEDIATE ISSUES WERE MTN IN GENEVA, WHERE WE HAD JUST TABLED OUR REQUEST LISTS, AND GRAIN RESERVE NEGOTIATIONS AT IWC IN LONDON. A FUTURE ISSUE WOULD BE EXPANSION OF EC, WHICH WE LIKE FRANCE FAVORED IN PRINCIPLE BUT IN CONNECTION WITH WHICH WE MUST SAFEGUARD OUR COMMERCIAL POLICY INTERESTS.

3. MEHAIGNERIE EXPRESSED HIS CONCERN ABOUT INFLATIONARY PRESSURES AND INQUIRED AS TO IMPACT OF SOVIET GRAIN CROP SHORTFALL. WE ADVISED MINISTER THAT U.S. GRAIN STOCKS WERE AT RECORD LEVELS, THAT WE HAD ALREADY AUTHORIZED HIGHER PURCHASES BY USSR PRIOR TO ANNOUNCEMENT OF CROP SHORTFALLS, AND THAT U.S. GRAIN PRICES WOULD REMAIN NEAR OR ONLY SLIGHTLY ABOVE SUPPORT LEVELS. MEHAIGNERIE INQUIRED AS TO U.S. ABILITY TO SUPPLY ADDITIONAL QUANTITIES OF APPLES AND CITRUS IF EC APPROVED GOF'S REQUEST FOR DUTY REDUCTION. WE NOTED THAT U.S. WAS ALREADY MAJOR SUPPLIER OF CITRUS TO FRANCE AND THAT WE COULD RESPOND RAPIDLY; HOWEVER, SINCE FRANCE IS NORMALLY AN EXPORTER OF APPLES, OUR RESPONSE WOULD BE SOMEWHAT SLOWER, ESPECIALLY IF DUTY REDUCTIONS WERE ONLY TEMPORARY.

4. DURING MINISTER'S DISCUSSION OF RECENT INTERNAL FRENCH PRICE CONTROL MEASURES, MYERSON TOOK OPPORTUNITY TO MENTION THESE MEASURES COULD CAUSE CERTAIN PROBLEMS FOR U.S. FIRMS. HE SPECIFICALLY NOTED LARGE LOSSES BY GENERAL FOODS FOR ITS GROUND COFFEE AND THEIR PRESIDENT'S RECENT LETTER TO PRIME MINISTER BARRE, OF WHICH THE EMBASSY HAD BEEN INFORMED. MINISTER ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THESE CONTROLS WERE CAUSING SOME HARDSHIPS BUT EMPHASIZED POLITICAL IMPORTANCE OF BRINGING INFLATION IN FOOD LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 PARIS 32647 081721Z

PRODUCTS UNDER CONTROL.
HARTMAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ECONOMIC COOPERATION, AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 08-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977PARIS32647
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770413-0297
Format: TEL
From: PARIS USEEC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771184/aaaactnp.tel
Line Count: 96
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b939461f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 674700
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US-FRENCH AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS
TAGS: EAGR, ECON, EC, FR
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b939461f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009